

(13)

12

An Answer to a Paper

Published by one

B A T E M A N

AGAINST THE

MINE-ADVENTURE.

522. m/12
12

By a New Adventurer.

THE best way to discover the Naked Truth, is to lay aside all Reflections, and come to the matter of Fact; 'tis an easy matter to be satirical, and to abuse the best of Men, but 'tis not so easy to carry on such a Design to the end of the Chapter; some unlucky accident or other generally falls out to the Eternal Shame and Disgrace of the Author, as it happens in this very case.

For I must confess, That being at first surprized to read such a Paper, so highly Reflecting on a Gentleman, whose Character was one great Motive which induced me to become a Subscriber, I made a very strict and full Enquiry into the matter of Fact, of which he stands accused in this Paper (for as to the rest of the Partners, I am satisfied they had no Concern in this Undertaking, but either to take Money or Tickets for their Shares, at the Price proposed) and being fully informed how matters stood, by undeniable Proofs, and finding other Persons (who were more able) too busy at this time to engage in a Paper War, I have presumed to state the matter of Fact to the World as I found it; and am perswaded the same will give entire Satisfaction to all unbiassed Persons, that will take the pains to read it.

And this I have done for two Reasons, first to discountenance Malice, and distinguish a Man, whose subtil Parts might otherwise make him capable of doing more mischief in the World; and Secondly, to vindicate the Honour of a Gentleman, who has taken so much pains for the Publick Good of all the Partners, and indeed of the whole Kingdom.

And because the scope of this Paper is to shew that this Mine is worth nothing, and that Mr. Bateman was always of the same Opinion in that matter: I shall begin with a Letter under the Author Bateman's own hand Writing, remaining (amongst the other Writings) in the Custody of Anthony Forty, and Francis Pigot, Gent. Secretary and Accountant to the Company; the Letter is set forth in the very words thereof, Paragraph by Paragraph, and is directed thus:

Note, Sir Christopher Wren, was then Chairman of the Committee, and that Bulchyr-Eskir-hyr, is the place where the Mines do lye.

To Sir Christopher Wren in
Scotland-Yard,
White-hall.

*Bulchyr-Eskir-hyr
May 9. 1694.*

Honour'd Sir,

Permit me your hand to present the Committee the inclosed Papers, which contain what I have observed, and can remind to be useful in the Affair wherein you recommend my Service.

Observa. The said inclosed Papers under his own hand writing, are to be seen in the custody of the said Secretary and Accomptant; and by this Paragraph I should think, that what he observes therein, was designed to relate to that Mine he was sent down to view, and not to any other in the North of England, he would insinuate in his Paper; and also, that his advice was recommended in this affair to the Committee by Sir Christopher Wren (which he now denies) tho' he told the Workmen in the Country, he was to come down Four times a Year, and several Persons recommended him to the Committee for that

purpose; and as they then said, sat his desire and request.

Letter. And I hope too you'll find a Return to what I was charged with particularly, except Treating with Mr. Covey; and I leave it to Mr. London, the discussing and excusing that Clause.

Observ. There is nothing material in this Paragraph, then that he was very cautious of observing the Order of the Committee, which he was charged with; but as he would have it; it was only as a Friend, and not in hopes of an Employment under them.

Letter. I have imparted to Mr. Waller the Methods I propose for the Management and Accounts, and he's pleased to comply with them.

Observ. I admire so Judicious and ingenious a Person as Mr. Bateman, should be at the trouble to recommend a Method of Management and Accounts for carrying on a Mine, when in his Paper he tells us, that 'tis plain, if the Royalty were bestowed on any Body Gratis, 'twere not worth the Working, and that he was always of the same Opinion; and if you would but take the trouble to read his Method at large under his own Hand, you might better Judge, whether it was fair and honest in Mr. Bateman, to recommend such a Chargeable Management to the Partners, that paid him 40 l. for his Journey, and put an intire trust in him, if he then thought the Mines were worth nothing. But mark what follows!

Letter. I'm in hopes all the Gentlemen in Partnership will do so, to raise successive Funds, as requisite for making constant pays, without which Hands will not be procured, and without Hands nothing can be brought in; —

Observ. Hey dey; What's this! Certainly this cannot be Mr. Bateman's Letter, it must be some cursed Cheat that has Counterfeited his Hand; it is impossible a Man of Mr. Bateman's Character can so vary from himself! What, can Mr. Bateman hope the Partners will raise successive Funds to be thrown away upon such an unprofitable Mine as this? Is it possible? O no! this is a great mistake; he does not mean that the Partners should Raise successive Funds to Carry on this Mine, but some other Mine in the North of England, that they had nothing to do with; as you may Observe from his Construction of the next Sentence.

Letter. Since the more is laid out in an undertaking that bears a prospect of success the more considerable will the return be.

Observ. This (says he) is true, I did say so, and I say so still, but without Application; he Dates his Letter indeed from this very Mine called Bulchyr-Eskir-hyr, and went down on purpose to View it, and give his Opinion of it, but yet did not Write about this Mine, but about some other in the North of England; O horrid impudence! I protest I have much ado to forbear calling him a prevaricating Knave, but he says he has given a Reason for Working the Mine before; and what was that, why truly because they might probably come short of Interest Money and sink the Principal: Excellent advice, an honest Councillor; a Man fit to be Employed and trusted; — but how does this agree with what follows.

Letter.

Letter. *This Concern is Weighty.*

Obsev. How? What do Men usually mean by such an Expression? do they mean by it that the concern they speak of is worth nothing? No certainly, all plain Dealers intend by such an Expression that the Concern is of great value, weight and moment: But however you must take Mr. Bateman in what Sense he pleases, and he only said it was Weighty, because it was Valued then at Seventy Thousand *l. per Annum*, and afterwards at above One Hundred and Twenty Thousand *per Annum*, which he says was too Weighty for the Mine to bear: This is such stuff that I protest I am a weary of this Subject; but however I must have patience to go through the Letter, and the next Clause is.

Letter. *But it better Comports with great Minds and Purfes.*

Obsev. What to do? to throw away their Money? so it seems, and for this end says he in his Paper. I annex the aid of Noble Minds and Purfes, because they are sure remedies for disappointments, a rare Spark: I hope his Patron (if he hath any) will take Notice of this prudent and Conscientious Advice, which may be very serviceable to him; --- but to proceed, the next Sentence is, that.

Letter, *It requires great Skill to carry it on to the best and most Advantage.*

Obsev. I thought there had not been so much Skill required to throw a Man's Money away, or at least, that no Skill could make a Mine advantageous; that was worth nothing, but this is a singular Virtue and Excellency in Mr. Bateman, That he can make a Mine valuable or not valuable when he pleases, had he been Supervisor, no doubt it would have been wrought to the most Advantage, but without that, it was worth nothing at all, and yet he tells us,

Letter, *And that suits well with Mr. Waller's Capacity.*

Obsev. How has Mr. Waller any Capacity to manage a Mine? Yes at that time he had, because Mr. Bateman only desired to be a riding Surveyor, and to go down four times a Year to inspect the Management, and to have Forty Pound a Journey; but afterwards that Motion being laid aside, upon Mr. Waller's Information, That he had no manner of Skill in mineral Works; now Mr. Waller has neither Honesty nor Skill, but is the greatest Cheat in the Kingdom, tho' he has four Affidavits on his side, and none yet against him.

Letter, *I heartily wish Prosperity to it.*

Obsev. I thank you heartily for your good Wishes, as long as you were in hopes to get any thing by it; and I am sorry you have given me this Occasion of making Mr. Bateman at Enmity with himself; but I know none so fit to deal with him as himself; for he knows the Secrets of his Heart, which I shall never be able to fathom any other Way.

Letter. *As, S I R,*

Your most Obedient, Humble Servant,

Tho. Bateman.

Obsev. This Mr. Thomas Bateman was very obedient and very humble to Sir Christopher Wren, as long as he wanted a Plate, but now he values neither him nor any Body else; for Sir Christopher Wren, who is a Person of great Reputation and Worth, declares one thing, and he another; I appeal to Sir Christopher Wren, and all the General Meeting, for what Sir Christopher declared publicly in the Presence of a great number of the Partners at Garraway's Coffee-house, and to the minutes taken by the Secretary, and afterwards publicly Read and approved which were as followeth.

Whereas there has been a Scandalous Report made of the Mines late of Sir Carbery Pryse Barronet by one Mr. Thomas Bateman lessening the true Value and Goodness thereof, whereupon several Affidavits were Read attesting the Largeness of the Veins and Goodness of the Oar thereof, and Sir Christopher Wren being present, did declare that Mr. Bateman denied to him that he had ever made any such Report; and that he said he was wronged in the said Report, and desired to be Excused, and that the said

Mr. Bateman would wait upon Sir Humphry Mackworth at his Chambers to declare the same.

And I appeal to Mr. Bateman's Printed Paper for what he says, whose Words are these, *I think it becomes me to clear first the last Article that Names me, wherein they say I have denied by Sir Christopher Wren's Mouth that ever I spake against the Mines; I never yet denied what I at any time said of their Mine, nor did I ever speak by proxy of it.*

This Declaration of Mr. B. gives his Old Master Sir Christopher Wren a very fair Broad-side.

Now which is the honest Gentleman the Master or the Man I leave to the World to Judge; for my part I have a great Honour for Sir Christopher Wren, and after so many Convictions of the other, can't think it difficult to Censure him in this also.

And Whereas he says his Computation of One Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Five Tuns of Oar yeilding One Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Tuns of Lead, or Fifteen Thousand Tuns of Oar yeilding 10000 Tuns of Lead was not said by him of the Partners Oar, but of the Northern Oar, this is just like all the rest, for this Paper is Dated from *Bwlchyr-Eskir-Hir* where the Mines Lye and inclosed in the said Letter, and is in these words following.

Bwlchyr-Eskir-Hir; 9th. May, 1694.

No Water Courses that can be depended on for constant supply, are nearer the Mines than Tallabont, which is Three Miles from them, and One Mile from a small River that Runs winding into the River Dovey, It has the Tides, but at such disadvantage that (I'm told) they discontinue from May to August; But I think this inconvenience is removeable, and constant Tides may be procured by a sloping Cut over the Common into Dovey, Mr. London has taken and will produce a Draught and Estimate of it. Sir Carbery Pryse is Lord.

At Tallabont Mr. Waller has designed a Smelting Mill, cut part of its Rase, and is under some Contract with Mr. Covey for building it.

Very near this place, upon the same River, stands a Mill that pledges forty Shillings *per Annum* to the Lady Pryse, the Situation is very convenient for a Smelting-Mill; and no doubt, but Sir Carbery may secure it, by taking upon himself for account of Company what is charged upon it.

This Advantage attends these Mills, that no Huts need be built for the Smelters, the Town of Tallabont (whereof Sir Carbery is Lord) being capable to receive them.

The Silver Mills are about four Miles from the Groves, and a Mile from Dovey, that's constantly navigable; they are very conveniently situated, yet I think, That taking down and rebuilding them will be more advantageous in the Consequence; I do not approve their present Erection for Lead; besides, there are now only five Hearths, but two new Mills may be built with four Hearths a-piece, the Materials and Appurtenances are good so far as we could view them, but the Doors being lock'd, we could take no particular Estimate, the Houses about, and adjoining 'em, may best be purchased with 'em, as capable to receive the Smelters.

No more Places for Mills could now be found, or heard of.

The Country not furnishing with Coal, the Oar is to be melted with Chop-wood.

The most that a Mill of four Hearths can melt in a Year, at double shift, is One Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Tuns, which may proceed from One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Five Tuns of Oar, so Fifteen Thousand Tuns of Oar, or Ten Thousand Tuns of Lead will require Thirty Two Hearths, or Eight Mills, and Sixty Four Smelters, with as many Sarvers. Proposed.

1. That there be as many Bing-steads, or Repositories, for Ore, as there are Smelters, that by it may be discerned who works the best, and makes the most; this Method induces the Smelters too, to take more Care and Pains, to strive to out-do one another, to be watchful over each other, that one get not Oar from another, and so see that the Oar be

well dressed; for as all Deficiencies (they know) in the Proceed, will be charged upon em; it behoves them to examine every thing to hand.

2. That a Steward be allotted to every Lead-mill, he'll have full Employment, for this Reason it may not be convenient to chuse any place for melting that has not Room and Convenience for two Mills; because one Steward may manage two, when they stand very near together, but he can't when they are any considerable space distant.

3. That each Pig (or piece of Lead) weighs one hundred, where Carts or Wayns can pass with it from the Mills, for this Reason, Smelting, Carriage, Portage, Freight, &c. are rated at so much per Pig, let the Weight be what it will (Sows are double) Merchants too commonly prefer Lead of this Weight per Pig, as saving $\frac{1}{2}$ in Freight of what they pay for Lead of the common Weight per Pig.

Now I desire the Reader to consider, whether it might not rationally be supposed, That he intended the said Calculation to be of the Produce of these Mines, which were the subject of his Letter, and his whole Business into that Country, rather than of any other Mine; you may perceive by his printed Paper (if he writ it without help) That he does not want a Satirical Wit and Nice Observation; and therefore I desire to know why he should tell the Committee, That Fifteen Thousand Tuns of Oar required so many Mills, Hearths, Smelters and Servers, if he had not the least Thought, That so much Oar could be raised out of their Mines? To what purpose should they be at all that Charge for nothing? Or to what end did he mention such things? If he had thought otherwise, certainly he would have told them, That he did conceive, that they could not raise but such or such Quantities of Oar, and that therefore two or three Mills would be sufficient, but whilst he confesses, the Committee had thoughts of building but two Lead-mills; he on the contrary writes to them of building Eight, and at the latter end of his printed Paper, he forgets that he had writ to the Effect above mentioned, but says, he only made a Remark as he was going with Mr. London to the Mines, of the Inconsistency of the first Proposals; which was to him an Argument, that their Oar was not to be tried by Fire.

I wish this Gentleman may not undergo a fiery Trial one time or other, for such Confidence and Prevarication, I have hardly ever met with before in all my Life-time; but for a farther and final Answer to this piece of Sophistry, I was lately presented with another Paper under Mr. Bateman's own Hand-writing, and signed by him, where he has these very Words, viz. The Oar is very good, and no doubt, will yield well: Now I know this Gentleman will answer me presently, and say this is true, I say so still, but without Application; for I did mean the Oar in the North; but hold Sir, I find you must be chained to the Block, or else there is no laying hold on you; and here I have you fast again, for your Paper is dated from these Mines at Bwlchyr Eskirhyr, and intitled some Remarks upon the Mines here; and the first Article is, That the Oar is very good, &c. Now let us see how you'll get out of this Nooze, I perceive you have more Tricks than a Dancing-Bear, but yet you may be caught some times as well as another.

The next thing that seems material to answer, is this Calculation of the Value of the Oar in 1696. 'tho' that is really done already in the Answer to the Objections, where the Author fully tells him, That in 1696. there was a Mismanagement in the smelting of the Oar, that the Oar was not half smelted, and that the slag (or dross) of that smelting when beat and washed, doth look as bright and rich as the Oar itself, and must be smelted over again to have the full produce thereof; this mismanagement Mr. Waller often complained of by Letter to the Committee, and therefore it ought not to be objected against him, and no fair Objector, would give a particular accident for a standing Rule, or insist on the Unskillfulness of one single Artist as an Argument against the Richness of the Oar, without taking notice of this Answer in the same Paper he is writing against; for 'tho' he styles his Paper an Answer to the Postscript, yet he really objects against all that has been writ of the Value of these Mines.

However to give a more particular Answer to this Objection; I will state it first in his own words, as followeth (Viz.) Anno 1696. The value of the Lead-Ore Bwlchyr-Eskir Hir in Cardiganshire, computed from the smelted produce thereof.

Tuns. Cwt. qu. l.

41 1 0 0 of Ore } As by the Mill-Ste-
Teilded 16 19 1 11 of Lead } wards Letters to Mr.
L-n, one of the partn.

Which is $8\frac{1}{2}$ C. of Lead per Tun (or 20 C.) of Ore.

Suppose Lead at Bristol (the nearest Port) to be 9l. per Tun, which is there a good rate.

	s.	d.	
Carriage from Tallabont Mill to Tredal, is	2	6	per Tun
Thence to Aberdovey. ———	1	6	
Agency at Aberdovey. ———	0	3	
Freight to Bristol (the Seas being open)	16	0	
Wharfage, portage, cellerage and factorage.	4	9	
	1	s. d.	
Total Charge from the Mill to the Sale is	1	5	0
Which reduces the neat worth of			
the Lead at the Mill to ———	7	15	0
	1	s. d.	

The neat worth at the Mill then of $8\frac{1}{2}$ C. of Lead (or of so much as comes from a Tun of Ore) } 3 3 11

Suppose this Tun of Ore laid at the Mill, the converting it into Lead requires this Charge, viz.

For Smelting a Tun of Lead.	{	Chopwood, Lime, and Shells come to	1	0	0
		Smelters wages by Agreement,	1	2	0
		Mill-erection and furniture with repairs and Stewards Sal. may be reckon'd at ———	0	2	6
			2	4	6

Pro rata the Smelting of $8\frac{1}{2}$ C. will Cost ——— 0 18 4

This Remainder is the neat worth of a Tun of Ore at the Mill, viz. } 2 5 7

From which deducting the Carriage from the Mines to the Mill, viz. } 0 8 0

And there is left for the neat worth of the Ore to the Mines. } 1 17 7

Which is about 15s. per Bing of 8 C.

No doubt but Mr. Bateman thinks he has now knock'd the Nail on the head, for if he can make the World believe that the Oar did yield no more than 1 l. 17 s. 7 d. per Tun clear Profit in the Year 1696. He supposes his Design is Accomplished. But alas he is mightily mistaken, for this Objection may be easily Answered several ways.

And first we'll take the weakest Answer, and suppose the Worst, that this Calculation were as True as it is really False, yet considering the quantities which may be Raised from these Mines; and which Mr. Waller with good Reason Conceives may be Fifteen Thousand Tun from the great Vein, and Five Thousand Tun a peice from the 5 Lesser Veins, in all Forty Thousand Tuns, this will amount to Seven and Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year Clear Profit above all Charges, according to Mr. Bateman's Computation; But suppose we Raise but one Half of that Oar, it will be sufficient to Answer vast Profit to all the Adventurers, and One Quarter amounts to more than Sir H. M. has Valued the whole Mine; and since we have Four Affidavits on one side to prove the Largeness and Wideness of the great Vein in Oar, and Mr. Bateman dares not venture to make one against them. I hope our quantity will not be Questioned by any indifferent Reader.

The second Answ. shall be from matter of Fact known to all the Partners, and appearing upon their Books, and that is, that the hard Oar was sold for 4 l. 5 s. a Tun at Davy; Now if the Oar be worth four pound five shillings per Tun, without farther Charge, how comes the same manufactured to yield but one pound seventeen shillings and seven pence, O. but Mr. Bateman will tell you, that the person that bought it had so hard a bargain, that he lost by it, and would never deal again with them, no, that is also denied, for the same Person who did smelt that Oar and had full Experience of it, hath lately bought of the same Oar from Mr. Pryse and from the Lady Pryse, and would buy all the Partners Oar on the Bank, if he might have it; this Mr. Bateman, perhaps, will have the Confidence to deny, and challenge us to name the Person. 'tho' he has made frequent References himself without naming any; and expects to be believed by his ipse dixit, yet we must not presume to take that Liberty, well, in hopes he will follow a good Example, we will name the Person, who is Mr. Dan. Peck, a Man of great Skill in the smelting and extracting of hard Oars in Wales, and has a noted smelting-mill in Flintshire.

3dly. But what will Mr. Bateman say, if this very Gentleman hath offered three pound per Tun for the very slag or Dross of that Lead smelted in 1696, will he then believe that the Oar will yield a better produce if smelted with Art and Skill, certainly if the Lead be left in the slag it is the same thing as to the Richness of the Oar, as if it had been smelted out, for if an unskillful Artist for want of a proper Flux, and good firing smelts but half the Lead out of the Oar, is that single Instance an Argument that the Oar will yield no more afterwards? But because we have a Critical Gentleman to deal with, very full of Evasions, I have obtain'd a Person of great Credit and Reputation, to condescend to tell us the Truth by way of Affidavit, for the entire Confutation of the Objectors, and Satisfaction of all the new Adventurers in this particular, —

The Affidavit of Edward Pryse, Esq. Edward Pryse of Gogarth, in the County of Cardigan, Esq. maketh Oath, That several Tuns of the hard Oar of Bwlchyr Eskirhyr in the said County of Cardigan was sold to Paul Dominique of London, Merchant and Commissary Shales, at the rate of four pound five shilling per Tun; and that Daniel Peck of Flint, Gent. owned, that he bought part of that Oar and smelted it, and that it gave him such encouragement, that within the space of three Months last past, the said Mr. Peck came over to this Depoents House at Gogarth aforesaid in the County of Cardigan, and bought all the remaining parcel of the said hard Oar, which this Depoent and the Lady Pryse had power to dispose of, and offered to buy the Oar on the Bank belonging to the Partners and the Lead, and amongst

amongst other things the said *Denil Peck* particularly offered to this Deponent upon the place at *Tallybont*, to give three pound per Tun for the slag (or dross) of that Lead which now lyes at *Tallybont*, and was the Lead which was made there in the Year 1696. from the hard Ore of *Bwlchyr Eiskir-hyr*, but this Deponent did not accept of the same, having no Power from the Partners to dispose thereof.

And now I desire to know what can be said against the value of this hard Ore? If this matter of Fact will not convince, if *Mr. Bateman* is a man of that Credit in the World, that his bare suggestions will pass against all sorts of Evidence, it is in vain to spend more Ink and Paper.

But however, for farther Demonstration of the Truth in this particular, I will answer every Item of his Calculation.

And as to the Produce of the Lead in 1696. that is confessed, as aforesaid, and the reason is given, because the Smelter was unskilful, used no other Flux but the Earth of the Fallow Ground, and did not give it half Firing; by all which a great part of the Lead was left in the Slag, for which Slag we are now offered 3 l. per Tun.

As to the Voyage to *Bristol*, and all the Charges thereof, we altogether reject that Notion, as a meer contrivance to enhance the Reckoning; for the Lead may be sold at 9 l. per Tun at *Dovey*, or at least sent up to *London* for less than 20 s. a Tun, and sold for 10 l. per Tun, and perhaps by carrying Corn from *Pembroke-shire*, or fish from *Aberystwyth*, the Freight may be more than paid for that way.

And then as for the Charges of Smelting, whatsoever it cost that unskilful Pretender in 1696. we know no reason why it should cost more with us, then in the North, especially since we are now to have Coal cheap by Sea, and by carrying Coal to Ore, and Ore to Coal, shall save half Freight, and a great part of the Duty on Coal; but at worst we are offered by the Great to have it done for 20 s. a Tun, with Pit Coal in a Cupulo; so I hope we may modestly deduct out of this Valuation 20 s. and 9 d. per Tun for the *Bristol* Voyage, and 1 l. 4 s. 6 d. in Smelting Charges, besides 4 s. a Tun for Carriage from the Mines to the Mill, which is four Mile, and we never paid but 12 d. a Mile; tho' he hath set it at just double the rate, by which you may guess at all the rest: And if you'll please to compute the Profit fairly, at the true value, and add 3 l. per Tun for the Slag, I believe you'll find *Mr. Waller* very modest in his Calculation; but you may see also a fair Computation of the Profit of this hard Ore, in the Answer to the Objections.

And here I cannot forbear to take notice of the extraordinary Partiality of this Worthy Objector, who notwithstanding the Papers he Answers, tells him, that there is several sorts of Oars in these Mines, viz. soft Ore, Potters Ore, Starry Ore, Steely Ore, &c. and tho' he knows, and was also told, it was not the soft or Potters Ore, but the hard or steely Ore that was smelted in 1696. yet he takes not the least notice of this, but slides it over smoothly, as if all the Ore was under the same difficulty of Smelting; whereas the soft or Potters Ore will smelt in a Fire Shovel in a Kitchen Fire, without any Flux; but yielding more Profit in Ore, for Glazing Earthen Ware in *Holland*, where it sells now for about 12 l. per Tun; the Partners never smelted any of that down into Lead, except a small quantity for Trial. And he is told in the said Paper, that if all the hard Ore were left unwrought, the soft or Potters Ore, was sufficient alone to bring in great advantage to all the Adventurers, and to all this he is silent; but I fancy no Person that has read his Paper will believe that he was so, for want of Malice, but because he cannot deny the Fact.

And thus having given an Answer to the material Part of *Mr. Bateman's* Paper, if any part thereof may be said to be so; I don't know whether I ought to condescend so low as to take notice of his Satyrical Flights and fly insinuations; I observe indeed, That he is conscious of his Guilt, by running for shelter under the Protection of a noble Lord, and of the North-Country Gentlemen, both which Stories; I am confident, are meer Fictions, in hopes to create some further Differences; for most of the Gentlemen he mentions, did assure me, that they never heard that any such noble Lord ever spok against the Mines, nor they never spok disrespectfully of any such Lord, nor don't know who he means; and *Mr. Bateman* would do well to name the Person, Time, and Place, and saddle the right Horse, or else 'tis hoped, this noble Lord will be pleased to entertain a more favourable Opinion of the accused, than of the accuser.

And as to the North-Country Gentlemen, the old Partners and Subscribers, have a great Honour for them, and never spok nor thought any Evil of them; but if a few inferior Persons being Tenants of Mines in other places have entertained a wrong Notion of this Undertaking, and thought it their Interest to oppose it, I hope any accidental Discourse relating to them shall not be construed to any other purpose.

As to *Sir H. M.* threatening *Mr. Bateman*, I can speak this to my own Knowledge, That when a worthy Member of Parliament proposed at a General Meeting, That the said *Bateman* should be prosecuted at Law, at the common Charge for his scandalous Words; *Sir H. M.* was the Man that diverted the question, and desired that it might be deferred till another Meeting. *Sir H.* does confess, that in a way of Discourse he has given his Opinion, and so has several other Gentlemen at the Bar concern'd in this Undertaking, that a good Action will lie against *Mr. Bateman*; for tho' it is a free for every man to give his Opinion and Advice to a Friend in private matters, that asks it; yet it is not free for any man to go about officiously to undervalue any man's Estate or Property to the damage of the Owner, as in this Case *Mr. Bateman* hath done, affirming, that the Proprietors had never a Vein one foot wide, that their Ore was good for nothing, and that they themselves (naming some of them) were great Cheats, whereby several Gentlemen confess'd, That they were discouraged from paying in their Money which they had subscribed, and others from subscribing at all; if this won't bear an Action, I don't know what will, — as to his Reflection on one particular person that help'd a Gentleman to buy at seventeen pound, and sell at twelve pound, he is desired to name the party, and the time, and the Circumstances of the Case; for it is hard that all those Gentlemen should lie under Censure for every single Contrivance amongst so great a number of Partners, or perhaps for none at all, but a mere Suggestion; and as to those Gentlemen refusing any Shares at twelve pound a piece, except some that are under prior Mortgages, *Sir Thomas* and *Sir H. M.* will give *Mr. Bateman* one hundred pound for every Share he can prove they so refused, which is good encouragement for him to speak out; he will be a great while getting so much money by his Salary at fifty pound per Annum, and therefore I would not advise him to be shy and let so good an Offer.

As to the Computation of the Value of the Northern Oars, we

wish they were twice as rich as he makes them, being of Opinion with *Mr. Bateman* and *Mr. Whiston*, that there is no danger, but there will be a sufficient Vent for all the Lead that can be raised in *England* and *Wales*; and therefore having answered his under-value of the *Welsh* Oars, upon which his Calculation depends, I shall not say any more to that particular, tho' some Persons better skill'd in those Affairs, stand amaz'd at his Confidence.

Mr. Bateman makes a great Harrangue upon a supposed mistake, that the Authors of the Answers to the Objections, were but lately informed of his Reflections on the Mines; whereas, he says, they knew his Opinion long ago; but tho' this is not material to the merits of the Cause, yet a Man is glad to catch hold upon every Twig when he is a Sinking: But how does this agree with the Postscript, which tells you, that immediately upon his being rejected, he vented his revenge in disparaging the Mine: Now tho' he would not reconcile this matter, I can do it very easily; for it appears by that Paper, that the same was writ by *Sir Th.* and *Sir H. M.* and that they were Strangers to *Mr. Bateman*, and but lately heard of *Mr. Bateman's* Reflections; but the Committee heard on't long ago, as the Paper it self expresses; but he makes what Persons he pleases to be Authors of that Paper, only to furnish himself with Arguments to reflect upon them.

But in Stating the Postscript, he has been pleas'd to shew another peice of his Skill; for he leaves out the chief Complaint against him; that he had affirmed, there was never a Vein one Foot wide in Ore, and says not one word on that matter, because he knows we have it under his own Hand, that it was three Foot wide in Ore when he was there, at which time the Vein was then in a Twitch, but afterwards came to be Six Foot wide again; see the Paper of the Affidavits, where this matter is largely handled, and fully explained, without any the least Answer to it from *Mr. Bateman*.

And as to his being three or four days in the Country, 'tis very true he was so, but he spent his time in viewing and advising about the cutting of Tridole Pill, a ridiculous Project, which would have cost a great deal of Money to no purpose, for the Sea would have fill'd it up again with Sand, &c. as soon as finish'd; and afterwards about viewing the Mills, and surveying Ground for Building of Huts, &c. but was really in and upon this Mountain not above three or four Hours, as several Witnesses can testify. And whilst he was there, he sufficiently discovered to all the Company how little he was acquainted with a Mine; for when *Mr. Waller* had shew'd him the several Veins, and particularly the Bog-Vein, out of which was then rais'd about 200 Tun of Ore (and of which he says not one word) and shew'd him another place, where the same Vein appeared again at a great distance: He staid till *Mr. Waller* was gone out of Hearing, as he thought, and then calls to the Workman he brought with him, and asked him, is this a Vein? I God knows, says the Miner, and a large Vein too, Don't you see it before your Eyes? But alas *Mr. Bateman* had seen the Veins so deep in the North, that he did not understand a Vein so near the Surface of the Ground, tho' he saw it; and whereas he desires an Affidavit, expressing that he was never under-ground; there is no Body ever said so; but the Postscript says, he was never employed under-ground, but only as Clerk to a Lead-work: Now there is a great difference between being employed as a Grow-Steward, in directing the Works under-ground, and being employed as a Clerk in keeping the Accounts above-ground; and this he knows well enough, but that he has a particular way with him, of making Observations which are nothing to the purpose.

And now I desire to know where the mark ought to be placed? upon this Project, or upon his Fore-head? and who those Persons are that have Fiction for their Foundation? whether they that have made Proof of the matters of Fact, or they who have made none? they who assert notorious Falsties, contrary to their own Letten, or they whose Words and Actions agree together? I appeal to every disinterested Person, whether there is any thing like Anger or Satyr in all *Sir H. M.'s* Papers; but as in all other Cases, of the *Million-Lottery*, and the like, Abstracts were made of, the Act of Parliament, for conveyency of Postage, and farther Explanation of the Undertaking; so in this Two Settlements were required to be Executed, and then Abstracts of those Settlements were absolutely necessary to be Printed; and the World had been troubled with no more, but that Objections rais'd by *Mr. Bateman* and others, compelled the same Author to give an Answer to them; and also to Print Affidavits and other Proofs of the matters of Fact; and this he calls haranguing Men into a good Opinion of the Mine.

But what can give a greater Demonstration of the Fairness of this Undertaking, then all these Proceedings? The Books for taking Subscriptions were opened the 3d of October, and shut up in 3 days; whereas most Persons believe, that if they had been kept open three days longer, the Books had been full; and this was done to give the World more time to be satisfied, and fully informed; and then, at the time appointed, on the 2d of Nov. the Books were opened again, at which time there was so great a Crowd, that it is well known, that a Noble Lord, and several other Persons of Quality, were forced to wait a long time before they could get to the Books; and when all was subscribed to Five or Six thousand Pounds, which was done in 9 days more, the Books were shut up again; purely out of respect to those Gentlemen that were then in the Country, and not come up to Town; for the Undertakers being entirely satisfied of the great Advantages that would (in all humane probability) accrue to all the Adventurers; were so far from doing it in a fit and spurt, as *Mr. Bateman* will have it, that they several times adjourned the days of Subscriptions, to give all Persons more time to be fully informed in the matter: and those that will look over the Books, will find several Persons of great Judgment and Knowledge in Mineral Works, who have subscribed several times, one after another, as they had time and leisure to be more fully informed: And it is well known, that *Sir Th.* and *H. M.* has several times at the General Meeting offered, that in case any persons were dissatisfied in the Undertaking, *Sir Th.* and *Sir H.* were willing to return back their Money; which the subscribers were so far from accepting, that they immediately made an Order to the contrary.

And yet this Gent. who they never had the honour to see in their Lives, is pleas'd not only to abuse the old Partners, but all the Subscribers too; as if all those Honourable Persons, who upon mature Deliberation and full Inquiry into the matter of Fact, have engaged in this Undertaking, as well for the publick good of the whole Kingdom, as their own particular advantage, were all a Company of rascals, acting in a Fit or Spurt of meer Credulity and Inconsideration.

If such a Person as this be Commended, I can't tell what will become of *Honour* and Reputation.

ere
 of
 not
 in
 ke,
 ate-
 they
 rits
 when
 t of
 on-
 Pa-
 te.
 the
 be
 to
 her
 nst
 ews
 in
 ch,
 of
 ex-
 ery
 out
 ve
 er-
 of
 live
 ow
 tad
 he
 the
 it
 I
 p
 r-
 fo-
 do-
 a
 in
 e-
 b-
 id?
 ons
 ve
 e?
 n,
 e-
 he
 of
 so
 fo-
 do-
 rs,
 to
 his
 his
 s-
 b-
 ee
 at
 in,
 at
 to
 all
 g
 to
 to
 at
 the
 re-
 s-
 the
 ral
 no-
 ne
 at
 d,
 a
 an
 it
 it
 in
 an
 o-
 Bu